Better Together

Better Together

All Responses sorted chronologically

As of November 30, 2015, 6:22 PM

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Better Together

Better Together

As of November 30, 2015, 6:22 PM, this forum had:

Attendees:	224
All Responses:	45
Hours of Public Comment:	2.3

This topic started on November 17, 2015, 4:47 PM.

Responses

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?

		%	Count
Yes		51.2%	21
No		48.8%	20

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:

Answered	22
Skipped	23

actions **african american** **believe** **community** complete **decatur** dha down downtown **expand** fabric from **greater** greenspace grid housing **include** **increase** **integrate** into **message** **more** **participants** **police** **property** **recommended** report residents sending solutions **street** support them **urban** very **was** welcome **who** work

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?

		%	Count
Yes		57.5%	23
No		42.5%	17

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:

Answered	27
Skipped	18

- 4 action affordable area been being believe better c citizens community cost decatur diverse do does effort entire especially focus g housing items its lower more permanent police problem regard residents s spaces staff they together too was what

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Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?

		%	Count
Yes		22.0%	9
No		78.0%	32

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?

Answered	29
Skipped	16

- 1 2 action add all also any art b better c case community decatur diversity do focus from housing iii important include initiative items its like most permanent police process staff such they those together training very which who

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Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together

survey?

		%	Count
Yes		73.8%	31
No		26.2%	11

Name not available (unclaimed) November 30, 2015, 4:35 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
The BT kick-off on Saturday, August 29, 2015, was outstanding--with lots of enthusiasm and imaginative suggestions. Especially empowering was the process that allowed participants to write down our ideas on a small piece of paper and putting them into a bowl. Many and probably most of these ideas were informed by the thought-provoking large-group presentations and the very personal and open discussions following each talk among the eight or so participants at each round table. There were also quite a few verbal comments made to the large group by table discussion leaders and other participants which should be included among the suggestions. The five-hour session probably generated several hundred ideas. I believe that these original comments and suggestions are possibly the most valuable results of the Better Together process and should therefore be shared with the participants and the broader Decatur community by including them in the final report.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No Response

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
See my other comments

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Boiling the original comments and suggestions down to a manageable number of action items could be useful for local government and other organizations. However, if the original suggestions are not also included in the final report, it will result in a loss of clarity, specificity, and freshness. For example, there was a well-received suggestion made by another table to the large group and subsequently discussed at our table: to have open, regularly-scheduled BT talks and discussions at different venues around the city—including the Decatur library and the community room of the new Oliver House—which are not fully reflected in the distilled item IB7 and IC17. I also believe that it would be more inclusive and less divisive if the final report did not prioritize any action items or at least not suggest that this was done by the community. The process used to distill the

original comments into 71 action items is unclear and the process to prioritize these at the recent November 12, 2015 BT meeting was very questionable at best. The wording, selection and prioritization of action items for the local government should be done by the city and its elected representatives commissioners based on all BT outputs, including but not limited to the contractor's reports. Also, those individuals and organizations who wish to take responsibility for any subsequent actions should develop their own action plans.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 30, 2015, 10:34 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No Response

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No Response

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Sarah Duston inside Decatur (on forum) November 30, 2015, 8:46 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Chris Billingsley inside Decatur (on forum) November 30, 2015, 6:51 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Support the City of Decatur Police, Oppose Politically Motivated Efforts To Micro-Manage The Police And City Employees

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
All Items- The entire secretive process was rigged from the start to produce anti police outcomes

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
All items

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 30, 2015, 6:42 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Support for the police

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
I oppose the entire list

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Subtract all.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 29, 2015, 9:25 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Item IA1. Residents who get the most from the Decatur experience are those who are actively involved in the community. IB2. NO, competes with existing programs (such as Colorwheel, e.g.) use public/private partnerships like the arts event/dance on howard last year; IB7. enable and encourage community converstaions through Focus advertizements, etc. IC2. include a 2 hour component in staff and commissioner training; iC13. NO to a permanent position. use existing boards and committees to make most of this happen; IC16. YES, use the Focus to include a column on Better Together; IC22. Simply add several items to current event planners checklist IIC3. yes, okay; IIC5 is already in place; IIC7 encourage diversity in citizen police academy through recruitment in neighborhood associations IIIA1. City is already working with state legislator to advocate for extended tax relief; IIIC3. IIIC4. Use the existing life long community to explore workforce housing; IIIC5. Guide to Seniors- YES staff develop this information . Comments in general: (1) Quarterly neighborhood association meeting (citywide) can help discuss and distribute information such as a consistent 'welcome package' for new members; (2)IB3. suggest a story-corp type idea for DBF; (3) Expand Decatur 101 adding a component on diversity and equity and examples such as Jazz Nights-Oakhurst, Beach Party, (4) Focus article should be developed with all materials available such as senior tax relief; (5) add 2-3 diversity/equity questions to citizen surveys; (6) focus article encouraging diversity within boards; (7) IC10- great idea- post, Focus, new neighbor packet, door hangar; (8) DHA is already actively involved in many of the suggestions of the III Affordable Housing items; (9) Include cultural points on decisions regarding public art

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 29, 2015, 9:12 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
First off, there are entirely too many items listed to get an overall focused idea of what is being proposed.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 26, 2015, 11:34 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
The list of items is much too large with items over lapping. The consultant was remise in not hav[ng the intake coded.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
For the most part my answer is yes. But found the process in arrivng at them poorly exicuted.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 24, 2015, 5:18 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No Response

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No Response

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No Response

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No Response

Name not available (unclaimed) November 24, 2015, 2:15 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
The list has a lot of good information but very poorly coded that would have sigificantly reduced the large number of down from 71.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
I found that a number of action items were the result of the responder not being informed the issue is already being done. I suggestes that a community awarness intiative a major action item.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
For the most part my answer is yes. But found the process in arrivng at them poorly exicuted.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Nancy Pegel inside Decatur (on forum) November 24, 2015, 1:51 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
add bringing a Variety Store to town, also office supply, Costco, Trader Joe. We have to travel out of town for all of these kind of places. Also add keeping trees healthy, most of which are located on private property. Educating folks that these are important to our town.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not available (unclaimed) November 24, 2015, 12:22 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No Response

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No Response

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No Response

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No Response

Terri Kruzan inside Decatur (on forum) November 24, 2015, 12:19 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Once final report received with recommended actions, it is important for City to work with the many City Boards and depts to coordinate who takes responsiblity for the recommended actions.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
There are many great actions put forth by Decatur citizens. This was a worthwhile effort. The hard part is now to condense and prioritize.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Add - I. A. 2 &4 Add I. B.1&6 Add I.C.5,7,8,9 Add II.A.1 Add II.B.2 Add III.B.1. Add III.C.5. Add IV.A.6. Add IV.B.1&2 Add V.B.2 Add VI.A.2. Add VI.B.1&2

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 24, 2015, 12:08 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Once final report received with recommended actions, it is important for City to work with the many City Boards and depts to coordinate who takes responsiblity for the recommended actions.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
There are many great actions put forth by Decatur citizens. This was a worthwhile effort. The hard part is now to condense and prioritize.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Add

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown outside Decatur (on forum) November 24, 2015, 10:26 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Fix this survey logic-I live in city of Decatur but choosing not to share my name says "Outside Decatur?"

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Almost all of them

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Subtract all but C5 (police officer training)

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not available (unclaimed) November 24, 2015, 7:27 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
increase visibility of special education services and opportunities both inside and outside of the schools in an effort to create a viable support network for families in decatur with children and adults with special needs.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Improve upon the City's existing density bonuses to

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
I would include - Establish the citizen-led Leadership Circle as a permanent

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 23, 2015, 4:42 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No Response

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No Response

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No Response

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No Response

Name not available (unclaimed) November 23, 2015, 2:50 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Most of them. This consultant is unqualified and the city should admit that it blew this opportunity.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not available (unclaimed) November 23, 2015, 2:02 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

James Radford inside Decatur (on forum) November 23, 2015, 1:52 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown outside Decatur (on forum) November 23, 2015, 11:40 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
I think many of the action items are unneccessary/overstep the boundaries of what government is meant to accomplish and some are downright insulting to Decatur residents and police. For example, “Publish and distribute a flyer with guidance for citizens on when and how to report suspicious activity and/or a possible crime” is not an action Decatur needs to take. Decatur residents to not need to be told when and how to call the police. Also unneeded is the directive “Provide City department leaders with the training, professional development and coaching needed to apply an equity lens to their work.” What is an equity lens? If people feel they are being treated unfairly by City department leaders, should they not voice their concerns directly to those department leaders? Has this approach not worked in the past? Has it been researched? Furthermore, Better Together's insistence through certain action items that they become a permanent presence in Decatur seems a conflict of interest to me and is particularly egregious in light of the fact that many of these action items seem to be • unresearched o (e.g., “Develop a storytelling tradition by organizing opportunities for citizens from different walks of life to share their stories in different ways, such as audio/video recordings, open-mic nights, photography exhibits.” [What organizations might be willing to do this? Has Better Together considered that certain buisnesses, such as Java Monkey and the dance studio already do these things?]) o (e.g., “Partner with an anchor organization to support the implementation and evaluation of the Community Action Plan and the ongoing work of Better Together.” [What does this mean? What organizations might be willing to do this? Have we already reached out to them?]) • already implemented (e.g., “Advocate for the General Assembly’s approval of the City’s proposal to increase its homestead exemptions for low and moderate income seniors.”, “Advocate for the General Assembly’s approval of the City Schools of Decatur property tax exemption.”) • unrelated to Decatur (e.g., “Take ownership of the community's public spaces by discarding trash in containers provided, picking up litter.” [Is littering really a problem for Decatur?])

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
All those mentioned above.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 23, 2015, 9:18 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
historical study of what did not work with past two strategic plans. Acknowledgement of grievouse examples of exclusivity since Decatur became city - schools, pools, walls, building destruction. Outline ways Decatur 101 and CSD 101 is open to different narratives about our city.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Excessive number of permanent positions for BT CAP.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Add at least one from Focus Area 4; Delete at least two items from Focus Area I

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 22, 2015, 8:21 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Develop a city staff person to advocate and manage Better Together, engage city residents in creating a new tagline

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Establish Better Together as a permenant City initiative,

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 22, 2015, 8:11 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Designate a City Staff to advocate for Better Together,

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Establish Better Together as a permenant City Initiative

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 21, 2015, 1:47 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Most of the proposals can be described as "warm and fuzzy". Would like to see more emphasis on concrete, measurable proposals.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
III.A.2.65 needs to be highlighted. There is a generation of citizens now retireing who, in the 1980's, basically saved the city and school system we all somuch enjoy and appreciate. My current property tax bill will consume 15% of our projected retirement income.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Brian Jones inside Decatur (on forum) November 21, 2015, 10:19 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Promote food forest/ edible landscape pratices/ Also, develop free parking in downtown.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No Response

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 20, 2015, 4:10 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Supporting more local events

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Affordable Housing Initiative: I believe city funds should be used to improve/maintain infrastructure and develop new spaces (preferably green spaces) that encourage residents to come together & foster a strong sense of community. I am not supportive of city funds being put towards increasing density via additional lower cost housing initiatives. Decatur is already quite densely populated, more could be done to improve the ties of the current committee, and there are a great deal of areas that need work that would benefit the longstanding residents who have been paying taxes into the city. Once current residents are satisfied with the basic expectations of the city (adequate sidewalks, more street lamps, & improved community green spaces), then we can discuss next steps. For now though, I think the funds the city has should be supporting the many residents the city already has requesting improvements.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Do not agree with prioritizing affordable housing intiative.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 20, 2015, 3:55 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Affordable housing does not make sense - The market dictates home values & apartment values. The city can help older residents continue to afford homes but should not build 'cheap' housing just for the sake of diversity. If an inexpensive apartment complex is built it would be against fedral law to only allow minorities to rent it.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
How does 'Make studio space available for adults and youth to create and display art.' impact diversity. Sounds like somebody just wants free space

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 20, 2015, 3:55 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
I do not agree with the effort to bring more affordable housing into the city. We specifically moved to Decatur, and were willing to pay the higher taxes, because we valued where those funds were being spent--safety, maintenance, & schools. It does not behoove us to lower the cost of living in the area so we are paying high taxes, while other enjoy the same benefits without paying those same premiums. Not in such a small community. Atlanta offers many areas with a lower cost of living than City of Decatur, and we specifically chose Decatur bc of what it offered. It is a middle to upper class community that is welcoming & open. I don't see how lower cost housing alternatives equates to more engaged community. Diversity definitely does not just equal income level either. It is actually degrading to many diverse groups to equate income level with diversity.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Lower Cost Housing Initiative - SUBTRACT

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 20, 2015, 11:40 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Focus area 1 item 2 about youth art is a good idea but not that relevant to overall goals.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 20, 2015, 10:15 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
I'll start by stating I am a hispanic male that grew up in a very diverse community in Central America. While I am not from either a Caucasian or African American background I do believe strongly that there is significant racial tension and bias that still exists which we should strive to reduce. That is for the good of all peoples from all racial and ethnic backgrounds. However, in this approach there is not enough emphasis on safety and crime reduction. You are not going to get my support or that of many members of the community to be completely racially blind and pretend that "profiling" is entirely a negative behavior. Human beings have used judgment and experience for millennia to identify threats and protect themselves. If over 90% of the crime reports that are reported every week in our small town are being perpetrated by 15-40 year old African American males we will be limiting our community's and police force's ability to be effective by pretending that we shouldn't pay more attention to a couple 20 year old African American males acting suspiciously than a couple 20 year old African American females, white kids, or latinos. You can pretend that making a judgment call based solely on appearance is morally wrong, but you know as well as I do that it is statistically more likely for one group to inflict harm or theft on their fellow human beings than another. That is simply the reality of the poverty, broken families, and poor education that exists in nearby areas of Atlanta. I personally would much rather feel safe in my community and not have to worry about my wife or children being robbed walking down the street than having a moral chip on my shoulder because I ignored reality and statistics.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Paula Collins inside Decatur (on forum) November 19, 2015, 5:38 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Add Area V, A: Individuals, #1 it's one of the easiest things to do so publicly show you care

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 19, 2015, 1:12 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not available (unclaimed) November 19, 2015, 12:28 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
I will agree with those who believe this entire effort is misguided.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
This entire effort is misguided and should be abandoned.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
The Better Together initiative should be abandoned.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 18, 2015, 5:08 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
This is led by a bunch of people with a social justice solution who are looking for a problem. The police here are great. Stop calling them racists and let them do their job. If the Decatur busybodies want to make a difference, then volunteer in South Dekalb or Atlanta in an underprivileged neighborhood or work to make the family structure better. Stop haranguing fellow liberals to feed your own self-aggrandizing sanctimony. You are not making a difference to anyone. Just feeding your egos.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
all of it. Our city government needs to let people be.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Better Together needs to disband.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 18, 2015, 1:19 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
This list does nothing to address conflict between the community and police, which was the very reason this task force was convened. Mealy-mouthed language about community policing is laughably inadequate. What about independent review of complaints?

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
All action items that require behavior from the individual are inappropriate, since it is not the role of this committee to tell citizens what they should do; it's the job of the committee to offer something valuable to citizens.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Why is reporting crime, which has nothing to do with diversity, highlighted, but myriad options for improving police behavior is not? This is infuriating, and the very act of neglecting the behavior of police worsens community relations and causes me not to trust Better Together.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 18, 2015, 9:40 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
DHA property is isolated from greater community, sending message that residents are not welcome. Expand street grid and integrate DHA property into urban fabric. Include DHA in housing solutions. Increase greenspace and complete streetscapes downtown.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
A lot. 71 action items is too many. Better Together should not become a permanent program - city staff and resources already are stretched too thin with existing programs. In regard to focus area 4, is there any evidence that this is a problem? The retail clientele that I have observed have been incredibly diverse. In regard to focus area 5, the problem is physical, not programmatic. Decatur lacks sufficient parks and plazas, and too many of its roads have poor sidewalks, especially downtown.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
Yes

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Better Together should not be permanent. I do support the enhanced training for City Staff and the policing initiatives - those are very important.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 18, 2015, 9:39 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
DHA property is isolated from greater community, sending message that residents are not welcome. Expand street grid and integrate DHA property into urban fabric. Include DHA in housing solutions. Increase greenspace and complete streetscapes downtown.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
A lot. 71 action items is too many. Better Together should not become a permanent program - city staff and resources already are stretched too thin with existing programs. In regard to focus area 4, is there any evidence that this is a problem? The retail clientele that I have observed have been incredibly diverse. In regard to focus area 5, the problem is physical, not programmatic. Decatur lacks sufficient parks and plazas, and too many of its roads have poor sidewalks, especially downtown.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Better Together should not be permanent. I do support the enhanced training for City Staff and the policing initiatives - those are very important.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 18, 2015, 9:35 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
DHA property is isolated from greater community, sending message that residents are not welcome. Expand street grid and integrate DHA property into urban fabric. Include DHA in housing solutions. Increase greenspace and complete streetscapes downtown.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
A lot. 71 action items is too many. Better Together should not become a permanent program - city staff and resources already are stretched too thin with existing programs. In regard to focus area 4, is there any evidence that this is a problem? The retail clientele that I have observed have been incredibly diverse. In regard to focus area 5, the problem is physical, not programmatic. Decatur lacks sufficient parks and plazas, and too many of its roads have poor sidewalks, especially downtown.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Better Together should not be permanent. I do support the enhanced training for City Staff and the policing initiatives - those are very important.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 18, 2015, 8:55 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
The city should be using its funds on building sidewalks and adding greenspace to bring residents together naturally. Encouraging density will increase the sense of community and an increased supply of housing should bring down overall rents, promoting economic diversity.

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
Yes, this entire effort is misguided. Focus area 1A is just common sense. C2.2 - if this standard is not met those employees should be terminated. I don't believe there is value to spending public resources on the entire initiative. It is very concerning that one of the action items is to hire the group as a permanent initiative, especially when Act of Community couldn't produce a draft of the report by the deadline. Focus area 3 - Decatur's community is more than the 4 square miles of the city. There is plenty of affordable housing available nearby just outside city borders to the north, south and east on the other side of Avondale - this isn't Manhattan where there is nothing affordable within an hour commute. The city should not be involved with this type of initiative, but rather providing efficient local services that residents desire.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Again, this entire initiative is misguided. It began with some residents who felt the police were biased, but the investigation of the incident did not indicate the police were profiling in that case. Individual issues should be investigated as they arise. A "community meeting" to design policy is not a gathering of 300 activists, many of whom may not be city residents. Spend city funds on adding sidewalks and additional park space to bring residents together naturally.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?

Better Together

No

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 18, 2015, 8:21 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
Many items are focused on new residents, more focus on inclusiveness and engagement of long-standing residents

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not available (unclaimed) November 18, 2015, 7:58 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
Yes

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
STOP BUILDING DOWNTOWN

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 18, 2015, 6:13 AM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
No Response

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
No

Name not shown inside Decatur (on forum) November 17, 2015, 8:40 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
I believe that action points I.C.2,4,6,8-10,14,15, 17-19, 22; II.C.5 and 7; and III.C. 2-4 would not generate sufficient benefit for their cost to implement. I believe that I.C. 13 and 16 are conflicts of interests in that Better Together has advised that they should be given more city contracts. I believe that III.C.3 puts an undue burden on private citizens; people should call the police when they feel like they need the police. If the police feel that someone is abusing emergency services, they can be charged accordingly. I believe that the entirety of Focus Area IV represents the city overstepping its bounds, as I feel that private business owners should be free to run their stores as they please; this is especially true in regards to point IV.A.1.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
Item I.B.2 should be totally at the discretion of local business owners, many of whom already run establishments for just these occasions. I.C.2 would be a waste of money; if any Decatur resident feels that a city employee has defective “equity lenses” that individual employee should be reprimanded. There is no reason to make everyone sit through a lecture when it is not needed. As I mentioned above, I.C. 13 seems like a conflict of interest, in that Better Together is effectively saying that in its expert opinion, the city would benefit from expanding the role of Better Together. The problem is, would Art of Community still be at the helm, in which case can any group truly be unbiased in its assessment of whether or not it merits receiving, I presume, additional paid contracts from the city? I.C. 22 sounds like it would put an unnecessary burden on city events, a burden which in my opinion would yield few tangible benefits. As mentioned above II.C.3 implies that citizens should “think twice” when in a potentially dangerous situation. I reiterate that Decatur citizens should call the police when they feel they need the police and if the police feel that someone has contacted them improperly or

under false pretensions that can be handled on a case by case basis. This will especially be true when summer comes around and Decatur experiences its seasonal influx of burglaries. I have no particular problems with items II.C.7 and III.C.3-5, although I personally question if they would actually raise any tangible results which would benefit the city.

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Name not available (unclaimed) November 17, 2015, 8:05 PM

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?
No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:
No Response

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?
Yes

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:
The vast majority of these items are, in my opinion, either unfeasible or beyond the purview of the function of local government.

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?
No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?
No Response

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?
Yes

Additional comments submitted by email and hard copy

I do not believe we should use public funds to train workers to view policies through an “equity lens” (C.2), whatever that means. The benefits are too uncertain, and it does not seem like a wise use of public funds.

The city should be very cautious when engaging in social engineering via zoning policies and other policies designed to affect the mix of residents and businesses (III.C.2 and III.C.4 and IV.B.2). Citizens are supposed to choose the government, not the other way around. Businesses are smart enough to locate near consumers who will buy their products. They do not need guidance from the city government. These types of policies, if poorly done, will limit the ability of Decatur to grow and evolve. And, as another commenter pointed out, it’s not like there isn’t low-cost housing near the city.

Best, David Howard

128 Ansley Street

Sarah E. Gentry (404) 377-2492
P. O. Box 154
Decatur, Georgia

November 30, 2015

Ms. Linda Harris
City of Decatur

Re: Community Action Plan Input

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1 How many staff persons will have additional work added to their currently over-worked schedules to implement these issues? At some point, continually adding issues as is covered in the Community Action Plan will mandate the hiring of a staff person, just to coordinate the added programs and/or agenda.

2 How will the City of Decatur, implement, add to a current page or pages on the City of Decatur web site to make the name and phone number of the, "person or persons coordinating the Community Action Plan available to the public in each given area?

I had to go through Ms. Bertha to get the City of Decatur Staff Person (Linda Harris) before I could get up to date on what is happening on this program.

3 Taking into consideration of communication technology, are there any plans for City of Decatur, to have a stand-alone computer available for the public to access any and all of the City of Decatur web site for research of any given subject matter, or to view documents. And of course, this should be placed in a City of Decatur Office, accessible to general public based on City of Decatur office hours.

A stand-along computer system would be helpful to many citizens who do not have inter net services and are forced to go to the Library or a friend just to keep up with City of Decatur Commission Meetings and/or Agenda.

4 The City of Decatur should provide at least three - four parking spaces (inclusive of one Handicapped) for citizens to conduct business at the City Hall. Parking to do business at City of Decatur Office is a Zoo!

5 Focus Area II - I believe this category can too quickly get out of hand by a zealous individual and do more harm than good. Strong/Firm guidelines are the highest priority in outsourcing Police Department actions to community or individual group. Here again, would this be coordinated by the Police Department official? How can the few Police Department staff persons keep spreading out, rather than effectively, letting the Police Department do their job by professional guidelines?

6 What is the earliest date the document to be presented to the City of Decatur Commission for the Community Action Plan prepared by Mattice Haynes be available for review prior to the meeting on December 7, 2015?

I'm very interested in getting a more comprehensive understanding of this presentation for review before the meeting.

Introduction

Better Together is Decatur's effort to address Principle B from 2010's Strategic Plan, which reads, "Encourage a diverse and engaged community." Associated with this principle are multiple goals to maintain and encourage all manner of diversity, strengthen our connections, foster greater interaction, and promote a stronger sense of community.

From a variety of citizen input opportunities, especially a broad community gathering held this past August, a list of 71 proposed action items emerged to take the form of a Community Action Plan.

Those items were reviewed and assessed in an early November public meeting, wherein certain proposed tasks were identified as top ideas to receive the most immediate attention. That full list was then presented to the city commission in a work session on November 16.

Now it's your turn to review where we are and comment on the present content. Here's how:

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

First, review the full list which includes 71 proposed actions across six focus areas. Then, take the survey.

Are there relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

If there are relevant action items you believe are important to this effort that are not reflected on the list, please identify them here:

Are there included action items you believe should not be included?

- Yes
- No

If there are included action items you believe should not be included, please elaborate here:

Do you agree with the prioritization of top ideas (highlighted in yellow) that emerged in the November 12 meeting?

- ✓ Yes
- No

If not, what items would you add to or subtract from the highlighted list?

Have you attended any of the Better Together community conversations or filled out the Better Together survey?

- Yes
- ✓ No

Return completed survey to Linda Harris via email linda.harris@decaturga.com; via fax 404-371-1593; via mail P.O. Box 220, Decatur, GA 30031; or bring it in person to City Hall, 509 N. McDonough Street, Decatur, GA 30030.

Introduction

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